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the suggestion of Professor Eschanhagen. They publish their declination traces regularly in the interests of the mining engineers.

WHILE residing in Cincinnati, Dr. Baur made magnetic observations about 100 meters west of an electric tramway (double trolley overhead system) running north and south. During the passage of a car, the declination needle was deflected  $1'-2'$ .

DR. L. A. BAUER returned to Washington on December 18th, having compared a set of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey instruments with the standard instruments at the following observatories, viz.: Kew (before and after visiting the succeeding observatories), Potsdam, Pawlousk, and Parc St. Maur. He has also compared his dip circle with three earth-inductors of different construction. At Potsdam (Leonard Weter's inductor), at Pawlousk (Wild's portable inductor), and at Darmstadt (Karl Shering's inductor). The results will be published as soon as the various instruments of the Coast and Geodetic Survey have been intercompared, and when the comparisons at the Toronto Observatory have been made. Owing to the limited time at Dr. Bauer's disposal, it was necessary for him to restrict himself to the above-named observatories.

PROFESSOR E. LEYST, director of the Physico-Geographical Institute of the University of Moscow, includes in his department a systematic course on the theory and practice of measurements in terrestrial magnetism. His students are obliged to determine the magnetic elements, and to set up and operate a set of variation instruments and to determine the constants. The new institute, which will be a model building of its kind, is rapidly approaching completion. Professor Leyst has provided in this building for the installation of a set of variation instruments. The accompanying absolute observations will be made at a point outside of Moscow, far removed from any disturbing influence.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

##### THE CONGRESS OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

THE fifth Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons will be held at Washington on

May 1st, 2d and 3rd, under the presidency of Professor Henry P. Bowditch. The following fourteen societies join in the triennial Congress:

- The American Neurological Association.
- The American Gynecological Society.
- The American Dermatological Association.
- The American Laryngological Association.
- The American Surgical Association.
- The American Climatological Association.
- The Association of American Physicians.
- The American Association of Genito-Urinary Surgeons.
- The American Orthopedic Association.
- The American Physiological Society.
- The Association of American Anatomists.
- The American Pediatric Society.
- The American Ophthalmological Society.
- The American Otological Society.

There will be two general sessions of the Congress. The subject at the first of these to be held on Tuesday afternoon, will be 'Bacteriology in Health and Disease,' and papers will be presented by Professor Theobald Smith, Dr. S. J. Meltzer, Professor Harold C. Ernst, Dr. Richard C. Cabot, Dr. Edward R. Baldwin, Professor William S. Thayer, Professor George Dock and Professor Simon Flexner. At the second session, on Wednesday afternoon, the program will be as follows:

'On Modern Therapeutics,' by Prof. William Osler, M.D., LL.D., of Baltimore, Md.

Essay, 'Sociological Status of the Physician,' by Dr. Clarence J. Blake, of Boston, Mass.

Poem 'The Evolution of the Physician,' by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, M.D., LL.D., of Philadelphia, Pa.

Professor Bowditch will give his address as president on Wednesday evening, the subject being, 'The Medical School of the Future.' This will be followed by a reception and there will be a banquet on Thursday evening. The separate societies will hold their meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and on Thursday.

The Secretary of the Congress is Dr. W. H. Carmalt, New Haven, Conn.

##### THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGISTS.

AT the New Haven meeting of the American Naturalists during the Christmas holidays, a number of the leading bacteriologists of the

country met, as previously announced in this JOURNAL, for the purpose of forming a society of bacteriologists. As a result of the meeting there was organized a society which is the first in the country, and probably the first in the world, organized for the distinct purpose of studying and discussing bacteriological problems. The society will in general meet with the American Naturalists. The opening meeting was very auspicious, there being over thirty in attendance. The persons joining in the organization of the society included bacteriologists whose lines of study cover a wide range of subjects. Among them were those devoted to the study of pathology; others studying hygiene. Others again are engaged in the investigation of agricultural topics and yet others interested in the industrial problems of bacteriology. Some papers were also presented upon purely biological aspects of bacteria. The wide range of branches represented indicates the extent to which bacteriology has extended in the short years of its existence as a branch of science, and plainly points out the need of some organization to centralize the work and bring to a common point information of mutual interest.

In addition to the work of organization a program of papers was presented. A more complete account of these papers will appear in a later issue of this JOURNAL.

The society elected the following officers for the coming year :

*President*, Professor W. T. Sedgwick, Mass. Institute of Technology; *Vice-President*, Professor A. C. Abbott, University of Pennsylvania; *Secretary* and *Treasurer*, Professor H. W. Conn, Wesleyan University; *Council*, Professor Theobald Smith, Professor Harold Ernst, Professor E. O. Jordan and Dr. E. A. de Schweinitz.

Bacteriologists desiring information concerning the society may apply to the secretary, Professor H. W. Conn, Middletown, Connecticut.

#### WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

The by-laws of the Academy were modified in May of last year by providing for a class of non-resident members. A committee representing each branch of science was appointed to consider the eligibility of men of science throughout the country for non-resident mem-

bership, and about one hundred members of this class have been elected. It is intended that the Washington Academy of Sciences shall become national in character, in so far as this does not conflict with the field of the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In view of the large number of men of science engaged in the work of the scientific bureaus of the Government and the frequent meetings of scientific societies at Washington, the City has especial claims to be regarded as the chief scientific center of America, and arrangements are contemplated for an annual scientific meeting under the auspices of the Washington Academy, which will be practically a congress of all the scientific men of the country.

At its annual meeting held January 17th, the Academy elected the following officers :

*President*, Hon. Chas. D. Walcott; *Vice-Presidents*, from the Anthropological Society, W J McGee; from the Biological Society, F. V. Coville; from the Chemical Society, Dr. H. N. Stokes; from the Columbia Historical Society, Hon. John A. Kasson; from the Entomological Society, Dr. Theo. N. Gill; from the Geological Society, G. K. Gilbert; from the Medical Society, Dr. S. C. Busey; from the National Geographic Society, Alexander Graham Bell; from the Philosophical Society, Dr. Geo. M. Sternberg; *Secretary*, Dr. Frank Baker; *Treasurer*, Bernard R. Green; *Managers, Class of 1903*, F. W. Clarke, Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Whitman Cross.

#### GENERAL.

THE Geological Society of Great Britain will this year award its medals and funds as follows : The Wollaston Medal to Dr. G. K. Gilbert, of Washington; the Murchison Medal to Baron A. E. Nordenskiöld, of Stockholm; the Lyell Medal to Dr. J. E. Marr, of Cambridge; the Wollaston Fund to Mr. G. T. Prior; the Murchison Fund to Mr. A. Vaughan Jennings; the Lyell Fund to Miss G. L. Elles; and the Barlow-Jameson Fund to Mr. G. C. Crick and Professor T. T. Groom.

MR. PERCIVAL LOWELL of Boston, and Professor D. P. Todd of Amherst College, sailed for Europe on January 17th, and will proceed to North Africa to arrange for observations on the total eclipse of the sun occurring on May 28th. Mr. Lowell's telescope and camera are

probably the best instruments hitherto used in such observations. Mr. A. E. Douglass will make simultaneous observations under Mr. Lowell's auspices in Georgia.

PRESIDENT DANIEL C. GILMAN has been granted a year's leave of absence by the trustees of the Johns Hopkins University. He will leave for Europe early in the spring.

PROFESSOR REGINALD A. FESSENDEN, of the electrical engineering department of the Western University of Pennsylvania, has resigned his chair to accept a position in the Signal Department of the United States Weather Bureau, at Washington.

THE Academy of Sciences at Belgium has elected as foreign members, Sir George Stokes, Sir John Murray, M. Moissan, M. Maupas and President Jordan.

THE Royal Astronomical Society of London has elected as foreign members, Professor George E. Hale, of Yerkes Observatory; Professor Robert Helmert, of Berlin University; Professor K. F. Küstner, of the Bonn Observatory; and Dr. Juan M. Thome, of the Argentine National Observatory.

DR. MANUEL ANTON, professor of anthropology at the University of Madrid and secretary of the Museum of Natural Sciences, has been appointed acting director to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Andres.

It is gratifying to learn that the manuscript of the new edition of Coues' 'Key to North American Birds,' which has been largely rewritten and rearranged in conformity with the classification and nomenclature of the American Ornithologists' Union, was left by Dr. Coues in a finished condition, and will be published as soon as the new drawings, which are being made by Louis Agassiz Fuertes, are ready.

DR. JAMES MARTINEAU died in London on December 12th, in his ninety-fifth year. He began the study of civil engineering, but soon turned to theology and philosophy, and was appointed professor of philosophy in Manchester New College in 1840. He followed the College to London in 1857, and became its Principal in 1869. Dr. Martineau is well-known

for his writings on theology and philosophy, of which one of the most important is 'Types of Ethical Theory,' published in 1885.

DR. WILLIAM A. HAMMOND died at Washington on January 5th. He was at one time Surgeon General of the United States and later Professor of Diseases of the Mind in Bellevue Medical College, New York.

THE *Auk* announces the death of two members of the Ornithologists' Union. Dr. D. Webster Prentiss, one of the founders, but since 1895 a corresponding member, died in Washington on November 19th. He was best known for his contributions to medicine, but published in conjunction with Dr. Coues a list of birds ascertained to inhabit the District of Columbia. Mr. W. W. Colburn, an associate member of the Union died in Springfield on October 17th last. He had been principal of the high schools at Manchester and Springfield, and did much to promote the study of natural history. He had published, in conjunction with Mr. R. O. Morris, a list of 203 species of wild birds observed in Forest Park, Springfield, Mass.

WE regret also to record the death on January 14th of Mr. W. T. Suffolk, treasurer of the Royal Microscopical Society of Great Britain.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given \$50,000 for a library in East Orange, on condition that a site be provided and \$5,000 contributed annually for its support. A similar offer has been made to the City of York, Pa., and \$40,000 has been offered to the City of Covington, Ky., on the same conditions.

MR. M. L. DELAFIELD, Jr., of New York City, has qualified as the first patron of the Botanical Society of America by giving \$250 to the Society.

A BILL has been introduced in the Assembly at Albany appropriating \$30,000 to allow the State Engineer and Surveyor to continue to coöperate with the Director of the United States Geological Survey in making a topographic survey and map of the State of New York.

By direction of the secretary of war, a board of medical officers, to consist of First Lieutenant Jere B. Clayton, assistant surgeon, U. S. A.; First Lieutenant, Richard P. Strong, assistant surgeon, U. S. A., and Acting Assistant Sur-

geon, Joseph J. Curry, U. S. A., has been appointed to meet at one of the general hospitals in or near Manila, for the purpose of studying tropical diseases in the Philippine Islands.

DR. E. R. HODGE, pathologist at the United States Army Medical Museum, Washington, D.C., has left for Manila for the purpose of securing for that institution such pathological specimens as may result from active hostilities and the occupation of a tropical country.

WE learn from the *Botanical Gazette* that the city of Philadelphia has acquired the dwelling and part of the grounds which belonged to James Logan (1674-1751), with Penn one of the founders of Pennsylvania, and a botanist of note, after whom *Logania*, the type of the Loganiaceæ, was named by Robert Brown. The property will be known as Stenton Park, the original name of the Logan estate, as there is already a Logan Square in the city.

PLANS have now been submitted for the new building of the American Geographical Society, New York City, to be erected on West 81st street, opposite the American Museum of Natural History. The estimated cost of the building is \$100,000. The façades will be of brick, granite, and terra cotta. An ornamental balcony of carved stone will have a place over the central entrance, with pilasters on either side. Two lamp-posts supporting globes will be put up at the entrance. Beneath the top tier of windows will be blocks of stone with the names of Columbus, Marco Polo, and Magellan. The first floor will contain the lecture hall, while the library will take up the second story.

AT the first meeting of the Paris Academy of Medicine for the present year, the prizes to be awarded in 1900, 1901 and 1902 were announced. The prizes for the present year number 36, and vary in value from 300 to 6000 francs. They are, with a few exceptions, open to foreigners, but the manuscripts or printed works must be written in French or Latin. They must be presented not later than February 1st of each year.

THE fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Paris Society of Biology was celebrated on December 24th. As part of the ceremonies, a commemorative tablet in honor of Claude

Bernard, one of the founders of the Society and its second president, was unveiled in his old laboratory in the Collège de France. An address in honor of Bernard was made by M. d'Arsonval, his successor in the chair of medicine. Addresses commemorating the anniversary of the Society were made by the President, Professor Bouchard, and by the General Secretary, M. Gley. M. Leygues, the minister of public instruction, named as officers of the legion of honor, Professor Mathias Duval, M. Gréhaut, the chemist, and M. Capitan, secretary of the Society.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

A MEMORIAL has been presented to the Maryland House of Representatives asking for a continuation of the appropriation of \$50,000 per annum for the Johns Hopkins University.

PRESIDENT TUCKER, speaking before the Dartmouth Alumni Association of Boston, is reported to have said, that during the year six professors, six assistant professors and three instructors had been added to the faculty of Dartmouth College, and that the number of students had been increased by 50. The Wilder physical laboratory completed during the year was said to be the best equipped in New England. Gifts amounting to \$150,000 had been received during the year in addition to \$300,000 given by Amos Tuck. President Tucker wishes to collect \$1,000,000 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the graduation of Daniel Webster from Dartmouth College.

A COMMITTEE has been appointed to enquire into the question of establishing a university college for North Staffordshire, England, and report in favor of trying to collect £20,000 for a building.

It is reported that President Ayres of the University of Cincinnati will recommend the discharge of the entire faculty of that institution at the end of the present college year, as a remedy for the troubles that have existed for a long time.

PROFESSOR F. A. C. PERRINE has resigned from the chair of electrical engineering in Stanford University.